

**City of Cortland
Cortland, New York**

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, brain injury is a serious, national public health epidemic affecting at least 5.3 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, every 21 seconds, someone in the United States will sustain a traumatic brain injury (TBI), which equals more than 4,000 people daily; and

WHEREAS, each year, at least 50,000 Americans die and 80,000 Americans experience the onset of life-long disabilities as a result of sustaining a brain injury; and

WHEREAS, New York State has implemented an enhanced and integrated system of brain injury services including point of injury trauma response, inpatient rehabilitation programming, community integration with special services through the Home and Community-Based Waiver, and an innovative housing program; and

WHEREAS, New York State continues to maintain a key role in working with national organizations to develop policies and programs dedicated to providing prevention, education, research, outreach, and services for individuals with brain injury and their families; and

WHEREAS, because most brain injuries do not heal, prevention is the best strategy for protecting children and adults from devastating brain injuries; increasing public awareness and understanding of the consequences of brain injury will result in a decrease in the number of injuries, and enhance the recovery for all individuals who sustain brain injuries; it is fitting that all citizens of New York State show their support for important measures that improve the lives of individuals with brain injuries and their families to help decrease the occurrence of brain injuries among New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, the Brain Injury Association of New York State has worked tirelessly to help meet the needs of individuals with brain injuries and their families and to educate the public and policy makers about brain injury and prevention; the Brain Injury Association of New York State works to fulfill the mission through a number of programs and activities such as a toll-free family help line, support groups, public education about brain injury treatment and prevention, and advocacy on behalf of people with brain injury and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Susan D. Feiszli**, Mayor of the **City of Cortland**, do hereby proclaim March 2011 as

BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Cortland, New
York this 15th day of March, 2011.

Susan D. Feiszli
Mayor of Cortland, New York